

**Applicant Name** Mineral County Saltese Water and Sewer District  
**Project Name** Saltese Wastewater System Improvements

**Project Abstract**

Saltese is an unincorporated community in northwestern Mineral County, approximately 10 miles east of the Idaho/Montana state line along the Interstate 90 corridor. The community is currently served by on-site wastewater treatment and disposal systems consisting of standard septic tanks and drainfields. Local residents and businesses rely on individual wells as their sole source of potable water. Well depths in the community are shallow, with 70% of wells having a static water depth of less than 15 feet. Approximately 83% of the lots within the district are 0.25 acres in size or less. Because of the small lot size it is difficult, if not impossible, to find sufficient space to locate replacement drainfields and maintain proper separation between property boundaries and individual drinking water wells that serve each home. In some cases, existing septic tanks and drainfields are submerged in groundwater or at the water table elevation. It is also suspected that many of the older septic tanks leak. Mineral County has indicated that development within the community utilizing on-site septic systems for lots less than 0.50 acres will not be allowed.

The proposed project will include construction of a standard gravity collection system. The new collection system will include an eight-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) sewer main, concrete manholes, and a four-inch PVC sewer service pipe. The collection system will be designed to deliver the wastewater to a raw sewage lift station; then the sewage will be pumped to a common septic tank. All existing septic tanks will be abandoned. The proposed treatment process will utilize one common septic tank to provide primary treatment of sewage before discharge of effluent to groundwater via a dosed drainfield. The treatment site is outside the floodplain, with adequate depths to groundwater for required treatment and disposal.